SOUTH VIET NAM In Struggle

6th Year – August 28, 1972

No 162

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CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION

Appeal of the South Viet Nam NFL and the PRG of the RSVN on the occasion of the 27th Anniversary of the August Revolution (August 19) and the National Day (September 2)

LET US HOLD HIGH THE AUGUST REVOLUTION BANNER!

Dear compatriots and combatants,

TWENTY-SEVEN years ago, our entire people from North to South, millions as one man, rose up, successfully carried out the general uprising across the whole country, smashed the chain of eighty years of slavery, completely won back our territory and ushered an era of independence and democracy to our nation.

The tradition of undauntedness in four thousand years' history brought to success the August Revolution.

Our nation, generation after generation, wrote the September 2, 1945 Declaration of Independence with its blood.

The great power of the August Revolution and the Declaration of Independence won over the French colonialist aggressors. And this power, tempered through the flames of two resistance wars, has won and is winning over the US imperialists, the most brutal aggressors in history.

Right after the triumph of the August Revolution, the US imperialists attempted to destroy the independence still in embryo of our country, firstly through the Chiang Kai-shek reactionary clique, then through their direct help to the French colonialist aggressors. They afterward kicked out the defeated French colonialists, sabotaged the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam, rushed into South Viet Nam, and have perpetrated an extremely brutal war against the Vietnamese people. For the eighteen years past, our people throughout the country have courageously fought and repeatedly frustrated the US imperialists' military and political plans. At present, our people are defeating US president Nixon's "Vietnamization of the war" policy.

The anniversary of the August Revolution and the National Day this year comes at a time when a most favorable situation has been created for our resistance war to US aggression, for national salvation. The

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SOUTH VIET NAM LIBERATION RADIO
TRANSMISSIONS IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES PROGRAMS
indicated in Indochina Time (7h prior to GMT)

French language news and commentaries

3.00 — 3.30 19m and 25m (14.990 and 12.110kcs)
6.00 — 6.30 31m and 41m (10.010 and 7.470kcs)
21.00 — 21.30 —

English language —

17.30 — 17.45 news and commentaries
5.00 — 5.30 broadcast for GI's
6.30 — 7.00 —
21.30 — 22.00 —

Cambodian language 31m and 41m (10.010 and 7.470 kcs)

5.30 — 6.00 news and commentaries
12.00 — 12.30 —
16.30 — 17.00 —
20.30 — 21.00 —
12.30 — 13.15 dictation, except Sunday

Lao language 31m and 41m (10.010 and 7.470 kcs)

11.30 — 12.00 news and commentaries
22.00 — 22.30 —

Chinese language 31m and 41m (10.010 and 7.470 kcs)

17.00 — 17.30 news and commentaries

— LIBERATION RADIO
c/o Information Bureau of the RSVN PRG — 39, George Mandel St, Paris (16th), FRANCE

— LIBERATION RADIO
c/o Représentation spéciale de la RSVN à Hanoi (RDVN)

in the shadow of the american embassy in Saigon

(Continued)

3 — THE GOVERNMENT: U.S.A.I.D.

NEWCOMERS to Saigon could hardly imagine that even more feverish activity is reigning elsewhere than at the fortress-embassy and the MACV headquarters. The seat of this tremendous bustle is a tall building located at No. 32 Ngo Thoi Nhiem street, next door to the Xa Loi pagoda. It is the headquarters of USAID (US Agency for International Development). Outside stand rows od parked cars — Mercedeses, Triumphs, Datsuns — from which alight ranking American experts, Saigon ministers, vice-ministers and provincial chiefs, American "advisers" for Saigon ministries and provinces, top officials in "pacification" financial aid, commodity aid "rural construction," civilian affairs, agricultural development, geological survey, oil survey and exploitation, irrigation, etc. To give an idea of the size of the undertaking, let us mention in passing that there are nearly 600 Vietnamese drivers and thousands of clerks, typists, statisticians, accountants, interpreters... Other personnel number over 20,000. A ranking official in the Saigon Economics Ministry once said: "USAID is the true government of South Viet Nam, if there is one. What does our Economics Ministry do? The only job of the Minister, Mr Pham Kim Ngoc, is to go each year to Washington to beg for aid amounting to 500-700 million dollars. After that, USAID will take care of everything concerning the distribution, utilization, regulation, transfer and control of these funds."

The USAID headquarters is divided into innumerable "boards," the 15 essential ones being staffed with 1,500 ranking American experts. The American heads of those boards assume in fact the functions of Cabinet ministers in charge of economics, finance, trade, industry, agriculture, communications and transport, security, administration, labour organization, planning, culture and education, health, information and propaganda, etc. Each board is again divided into sections staffed with "experts" of numerous branches. There are two large documentation departments and a huge library equipped with electronic computers and crammed with maps, diagrams, models and blueprints, as well as statistics of the most diverse kinds. USAID has its own printing-office, the biggest in Saigon, which turns out documents and communiqués in English and Vietnamese.

A Saigon official said: "It will hardly make any difference whether Vietnamization will be completed or not. This is the American government-general for South Viet Nam, many times bigger than the former French colonial government-general. Vietnamization? One can see that plenty of Americans are around, and more are coming!"

The Saigonese know that the sharp increase in commodity prices, the cost of living and the rates of unemployment, inflation, and taxation springs from plans worked out by USAID.

This super-government, which tops "Prime Minister" Khiem's in that way, is thus very active. But how effective is it? This is a rather big question mark. Saigon politicians have relished a recent disclosure of their American "friends." In September 1971, Colby, deputy ambassador in charge of the USAID for four years returned to the US and revealed that of the two billion dollars distributed by USAID in South Viet Nam in various programs only about 300 million had reached their destination. The rest, 1,800 million dollars, had vanished like the morning mist under the tropical sun into the pockets of Americans and Vietnamese at various levels in various places. Finally, to gloss over this tragic and ugly story, and to "avoid putting weapons in the hands of Americans who are against the war in Viet Nam", the blame was put on the war and the attendant lack of security, a situation for which no one held himself responsible.

There is still another government in Saigon, one which is invisible yet ubiquitous. It is the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) whose name the Saigonese pronounce in a way which makes it sound like the Vietnamese word meaning "excrement." How many are the CIA men, taking into account both professionals and collaborators? 50,000? 100,000? No one knows for sure. According to some people in the know who become talkative under the influence of alcohol, the American CIA men are quite numerous. They may include ambassadors, deputy ambassadors, journalists, tourists, senators on inspection tours, infantry generals, air force colonels, Green Beret sergeants, businessmen or college professors. None would admit to being CIA men, but any American could be one. They work for CIA, either full or part time, without ceasing to be members of other military, administrative, diplomatic, or political services. What about the native CIA men? They may comprise Cabinet ministers, department heads, parliamentarians, churchmen, business executives, trade union leaders, members of local maffias... Who are the CIA top men? They are very few, and very discreet. They don't live in ostentatious high-rise buildings but in cosy villas along Cong Ly, Hai Ba Trung and Truong Ming Giang boulevards—one-storey structures with private gardens, tennis courts and swimming-pools. These are the resorts of such men as Golley American ambassador and the adviser to Vang Pao, both of them top CIA men in Laos. Saigon is rife with rumours about CIA deals on drugs and weapons all over Southeast Asia. There are CIA-run channels linking Saigon to Bangkok, Singapore, Vientiane, Long Cheng, Manila, Hong Kong, Tokyo, etc., through which foreign exchange, gold, diamonds, intelligence, prostitutes and what not are travelling. CIA spending are enormous, and so are its revenues. The CIA men in Saigon spend a great deal of money. Life behind the closed doors of their discreet villas is a voluptuous one. After each series of bloody feats—building "tiger cages" for political prisoners, penning up the civilian population in concentration camps, making away with Thieu's political opponent... — they withdraw to these cosy retreats and relax with special-quality opium in golden tins engraved with twin dragons, pure heroin, strip-tease shows performed by belly-dancers brought in from Hong Kong, the Philippines and Japan, or hectic games of mahjong and poker... Lesser CIA men live in bigger and more crowded villas where they enjoy entertainments which are somewhat more modest but still surpass anything Saigon playboys could dream of.

CIA professionals are proud of their organization, which encompasses the whole "free world" and has deep roots in almost all capitals, among people of all skin colours. They say: "Our country is CIA. CIA is a world-wide government." A member of the opposition in Saigon scoffs: "Their country is rather money, drugs, and costly prostitutes."

The most noteworthy CIA exploit was the overthrow of Ngo Dinh Diem. Of course they later denied any role in it, until the publication of the Pentagon's secret papers made everything plain enough. It was a Colonel, a CIA man, who as early as August 1963 had been personally entrusted by Kennedy with working out plans for the toppling of Ngo Dinh Diem. Even now, men like Nixon and Goldwater still deeply regret the loss of Ngo Dinh Diem and have harsh words for CIA on this score. Rumour has it that ever since he knew the detailed truth about Diem's liquidation, "President" Thieu often has had to resort to heavy doses of tranquilizers to get some sleep at night.

The NFL's great offensive of Spring 1968 gave the CIA a slap in the face. It showed that the latter had been completely in the dark about the preparations and manpower movements for that tremendous undertaking. Another hard blow came in March this year when Saigon troops suffered terrible setbacks along Highway 9 and in Quang Tri. These are two bigs stains on CIA records. Many Americans said at the time that CIA men had been too busy with sex and drugs. Others ascribed the fiasco to antagonisms between the CIA, MACV and the American embassy on problems of policy in Viet Nam. They recalled that CIA men hated Westmoreland's search for military victories over the Viet Cong main force, a dream which never came true. For the CIA would rather stake all on the program for "winning hearts and minds" and "pacification," which they considered the only fighting front.

In the 1964-65, the CIA fully approved of the bombing of North Viet Nam. But in 1967 it completely dissociated itself from the policy of war escalation. A top CIA man once said to Admiral Grant Sharp, the commander of US forces in the Pacific, who was passing through Saigon: "When you start hitting, pull no punch. Don't you know that, you a militaryman? Gradual escalation can only be frustrating."

THANH NAM

(To be continued)

The Big Lie

IF Theodore Roosevelt has remained in the annals of US aggressions as the big stick boy, Richard Nixon will go down as the author of the most arrant frauds of the second half of the 20th century. The so-called US disinvolvement from Indochina with the pull-outs of GI's is certainly one of them and a sizable one at that.

In every one of his televized speeches the incumbent US President never forgets to repeat ad nauseam that on his inauguration, there were 550,000 GI's in South Viet Nam and that US weekly casualties ran to 300. His "Vietnamization" has since cut down considerably the build-up and losses.

In his June 29, 1972 press conference given only 11 days before the Democratic Convention at Miami Beach, the Republican President thought it advisable to weigh in with the argument that whatever may happen, his administration has achieved progress toward an end to the war and US involvement with the withdrawal of more than a half-million American troops.

In point of fact, from June 1969 to June 1972, 8 cutbacks were operated. The 9th announced on June 28, 1972 would bring down the strength of the US forces in South Viet Nam to 39,000 men only by the 1st of Sept. During the same period, the weekly toll in fact went down.

But the US aggression pursuing the objectives of US neo-colonialism, instead of abating, has been stepped up and expanded. Its juggernaut which has been playing havoc in the Indochinese countries has been made more devastating. Nixon has committed to the Indochinese theatre of operations one half of US aircraft carriers, two-thirds of the 7th Fleet strength, two-thirds of US tactical air force and one half of US strategic aviation (200 out of about 400 B-52's). The tonnage of explosives rained on Viet Nam and Indochina during the three years of Nixon's tenure (9 million tons) has exceeded by three times that of the whole Johnson term. In 40 days, on the city of Quang Tri (area = less than 4 square miles) USAF and US navy dropped 80,000 tons of bombs and bullets, or an amount of hardware equal to that used in one month on all the European battlefields in the fiercest stage of the Second World War. Never before in the annals of war has such a deluge of fire been wreaked on such a narrow combat ground. On May 24, Daniel James, assistant Defence Secretary, threatened North Viet Nam industrial areas with saturation bombings.

Phasing out of troops and war escalation is only a contradiction in terms which can be explained by the following three main reasons:

1 — Beefing up of the Saigon army from 500,000 men under Johnson to one million at the beginning of 1972. The so-called people's self-defence paramilitary force is about the same size and has been issued half a million automatic and semi-automatic weapons of small caliber. So for each American boy sent home, there are now two Saigon men to take his place.

2 — But not all the GI's are going. Enough of them remain to officer the client army as "advisors" or "technicians" and to guard US bases inaccessible to yellow people. US garrisons in Thailand have been strengthened with the very troops pulled out from South Viet Nam. 40,000 Marines are on board ships of the 7th Fleet off the Vietnamese coast. As a result, by August 1st, 1972, US forces deployed inside and outside Viet Nam numbered something like 200,000 men (100,000 GI's and South Korean mercenaries in South Viet Nam, 45,000 US troops in Thailand, 40,000 Marines onboard, and 20,000 officers and men of the 7th Fleet).

3 — Combat tactics and characteristics of the aggression have been changing into those of an electronic, semi-automatic mass murder visited mainly on civilians. In this connection, B52's which rain death and destruction from a 30,000-foot altitude have become the favourite weapon of the US command, now unassumingly called M.A.C. While a deluge of toxic chemicals regularly falls on South Vietnamese countryside to wipe out not only all animal and plant life but also the environment in many places, US planes bomb dykes and hydraulic works to weaken the traditional defences of an entire people against floods and pave the way for a disaster during the August spates.

The job has been duly divided between the US air force and navy and the Saigon ground mercenaries.

It is a paying proposition because as early as during the aggression against Korea, Van Fleet, commander of 8th Army and foster father of the South Korean army, already reckoned that a client division, equipped with similar weapons, cost 15 times less than a corresponding US outfit. In South Viet Nam, the Saigon soldiery feed on rice and dried fish and are not issued such luxuries as portable swimming pools and refrigerators. When they get killed, they are thrown into a common grave and their widows and orphans receive a paltry death benefit at the rate of 423 Saigon piastres to a depreciated dollar.

For its cheapness, the Saigon army has been handed over a rather inglorious responsibility: that of serving food for powder on all Indochinese battelfields. Nixon sent it with the GI's to plundering bouts in Cambodia in 1970 and into a single-handed invasion of South Laos in February 1971. The trouble is that its fighting capacity is pretty poor too. It has been drubbed everywhere, and its reverses have triggered off the inevitable collapse of Vietnamization of which it is the backbone.

From all the above, it appears that the US not only has not disengaged itself from the war but even has got involved and bogged down deeper in the Vietnamese and Indochinese paddies.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating, goes the proverb. The proof of US over-involvement and more serious miring down is in its military, political and diplomatic setbacks in the war in Viet Nam and its compounded difficulties at home like economic recession, budget deficits, a higher inflation and crime rate, devaluation and depreciation of the dollar etc. The Viet Nam issue which Nixon hopes to relegate to the background after his tours abroad is still on the frontpage of newspapers and grist to McGovern's mill, in Democratic primaries and in the Democratic Convention as well.

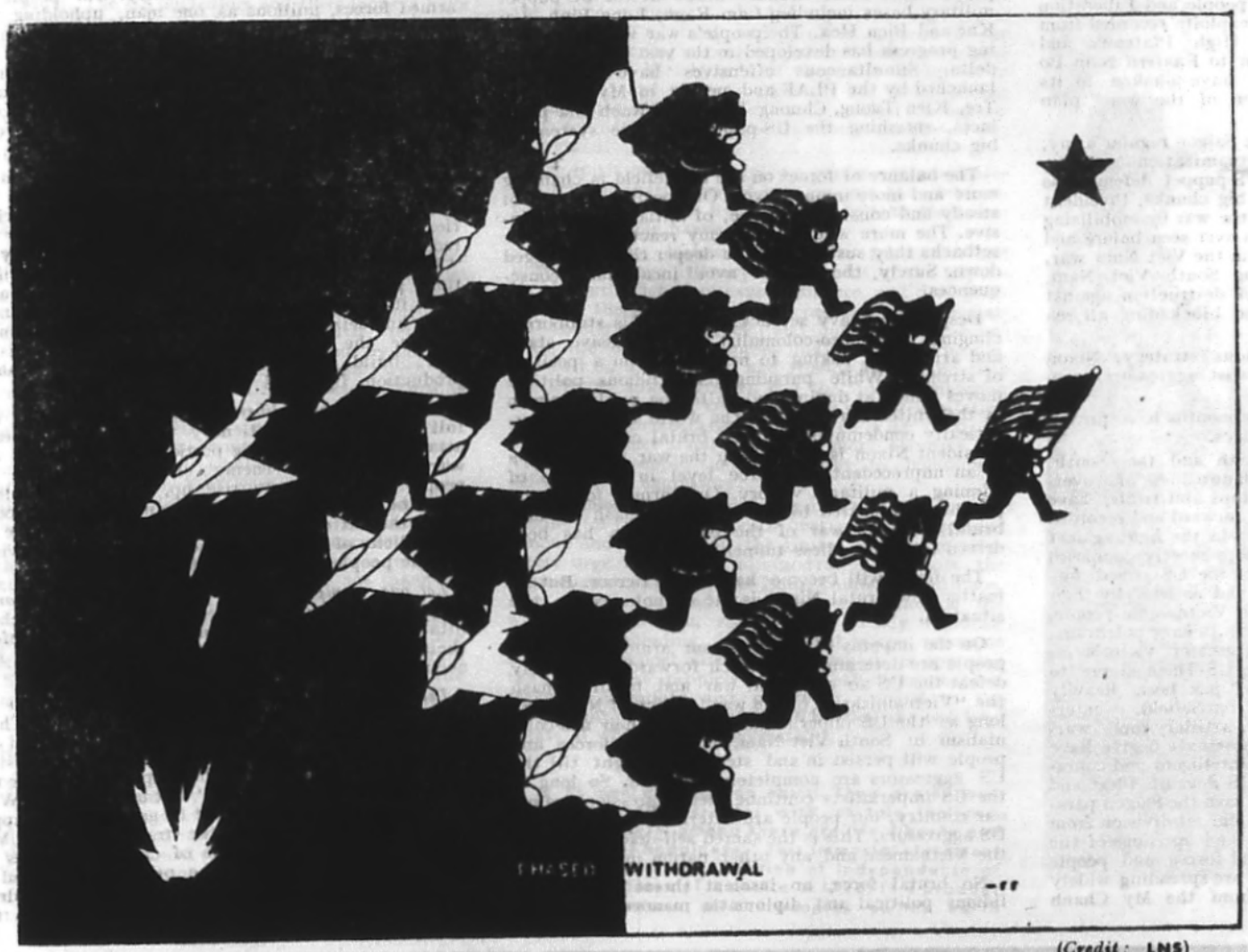
Among Americans, there has been a growing realization of the deception to which they have fallen victims of the smokescreen set up by partial reductions of US troop strength.

In the last analysis, "Vietnamization" boils down to a big lie and a vicious move of Mr Nixon's to keep up and step up his criminal neo-colonialist challenge to the national rights of the Vietnamese and other Indochinese peoples.

His aggression has been formally exposed as an international crime by the Moscow October 1971 Conference of Jurists from Socialist Countries held on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Nuremberg Trial and by the Algiers November 1971 Second International Conference of Jurists on Indochina attended by representatives of more than 40 countries and 7 international legal bodies.

The well-known Soviet international lawyer A. Poltarak, wrote in "International Life," May 1972: "The partial phasing out of ground troops and altered tactics have not at all reduced the military potential of the aggressors and the dangerous character of their assault on the Indochinese peoples.

"First of all one should realize that the changes operated do not alter an iota the appraisal of the character of the war. In the eye of the UN Charter, it does not matter, as far as the political and juridical description of the aggression launched and conducted by the US in Indochina is concerned, whether at any given stage, the latter, its main organizer, regroups its forces namely by reducing one of its forces (ground force) and intensifying the operations of others (air and navy), whether by cutting down its troop strength and beefing up that of its allies."



(*Credit*: LNS)

XUAN KHANH

Appeal of the South Viet Nam NFL and the PRG of the RSVN on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the August Revolution (August 19) and the National Day (September 2)

LET US HOLD HIGH THE AUGUST REVOLUTION BANNER !

In the flush of victory, let's be resolved to fight and to win

(Continued from page 1)

offensives and uprisings carried out since early Spring 1972 by the South Vietnamese people and Liberation armed forces and the splendid exploits recorded from Quang Tri - Thua Thien, the High Plateaux and Central and Southern Trung Bo to Eastern Nam Bo and the Mekong river delta have shaken to its foundation the "Vietnamization of the war" plan of the US imperialists.

In face of the collapse of the Saigon regular army, the backbone of the "Vietnamization" and a critical situation where the US-puppet defence has been breached and smashed by big chunks, President Nixon has "re-Americanized" the war by mobilizing the biggest air and naval forces ever seen before and made them the decisive forces in the Viet Nam war, savagely bombing and shelling South Viet Nam, frenziedly escalating the war of destruction against North Viet Nam and mining and blockading all sea entries of the great rear.

With that extremely perfidious strategy, Nixon hopes to save the US imperialist aggressors from their inevitable failure.

But realities in the past three months have proven the error made by the war-maniacs.

Our people in both the North and the South, enhancing the tradition of undauntedness and overcoming all difficulties, hardships and trials, have steadily and resolutely marched forward and recorded many great and allsided victories in the fight against Nixon's new expeditionary troops mostly composed of the two strongest branches of the US armed forces. Wholeheartedly supported and assisted by their northern kith and kin, the South Vietnamese people, bringing into full play their revolutionary potentials, have become stronger and won greater victories as they fight. The ambition of the US-Thieu clique to recapture the "lost territories" has been heavily frustrated. On the Quang Tri battlefield, counter-offensives made by US aircraft, artillery and warships concentrated to the highest ever degree have proved powerless in face of the intelligent and courageous liberation fighters. The US Seventh Fleet and strategic air force have failed to save the Saigon paratroops division, marine division and 1st division from being battered. The offensives and uprisings of the South Viet Nam liberation armed forces and people are not halted or weakened but are spreading widely throughout South Viet Nam, from the My Chanh river to the Ca Mau cape. They are raging in the plains, and coastal areas of Central Viet Nam and the High Plateaux. The liberation armed forces and people have dealt thunder blows at the US-puppet military bases including Cam Ranh, Long Binh, Lai Khe and Bien Hoa. The people's war which is making progress has developed in the vast Mekong river delta. Simultaneous offensives have repeatedly launched by the PLAF and people in My Tho, Ben Tre, Kien Tuong, Chuong Thien and Rach Gia provinces, smashing the US-puppet coercive system by big chunks.

The balance of forces on the battlefield is changing more and more in our favor. Our position is one of steady and constant advance, of initiative and offensive. The more wildly the enemy react, the heavier setbacks they sustain and the deeper they get bogged down. Surely, they cannot avoid incalculable consequences.

Despite its heavy setbacks, the US is stubbornly clinging to its neo-colonialist and aggressive stand and arrogantly asking to negotiate from a position of strength. While pursuing his perfidious political moves aimed at duping and palliating public opinion in the United States and in the world which is energetically condemning his most brutal crimes of war, President Nixon is stepping up the war of aggression to an unprecedentedly fierce level in the hope of winning a military victory. Our armed forces and people are prepared to confront and smash all new brutal moves of war of the enemy who has been driven into an endless tunnel.

The fight will become harder and fiercer. But no matter how brutal Nixon is, he cannot reverse the situation.

On the impetus of victories, our armed forces and people are determined to march forward, completely defeat the US air and naval war and totally smash the "Vietnamization of the war" policy of Nixon. So long as the US imperialists maintain their neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam, our armed forces and people will persist in and step up the fight till the US aggressors are completely defeated. So long as the US imperialists continue their aggression against our country, our people are determined to fight the US aggressors. This is the sacred self-defence right of the Vietnamese and any other nation in the world.

No brutal force, no insolent threat and no perfidious political and diplomatic manoeuvres of the US imperialists can shake the iron-like determination of the South Vietnamese people.

On the occasion of the anniversary of the August revolution and independence day this year, the SVN NFL Central Committee and RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government once again declare that independence, sovereignty, unity and integral territory of Viet Nam are sacred and imprescriptible rights of the Vietnamese people. The Vietnamese people cannot tolerate the US imperialists' encroaching on any inch of land of Viet Nam in the South or in the North. The US must end its aggression, end the "Vietnamization of the war" policy, stop backing the Nguyen Van Thieu dictatorial and war-like regime and all US involvement in South Viet Nam. The US must end all bombings and shellings as well as the mining, blockade and all other war acts against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, end immediately all bombardments aimed at destroying the dikes and irrigation works in the North, acts which have been strongly condemned by world public opinion. The US imperialists must strictly respect the Vietnamese people's national fundamental rights and the South Viet Nam people's right to self-determination, seriously negotiate at the Paris conference, positively respond to the seven-point solution of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government the two key points of which have been clarified. That is the basic stand of the Vietnamese people, the only fair and reasonable proposal conforming to the Viet Nam people and the aspiration and genuine honour of the American people.

Dear compatriots and combatants,

"NOTHING is more precious than independence and freedom." Bringing into full play the tradition of undauntedness of the August Revolution and loyal to our oath of independence, all our compatriots and combatants are determined to realize the last appeal of President Ho Chi Minh: "The US imperialists are evidently defeated, but they still refuse to give up their design to clink on the Southern part of our country. Our people and armed forces, millions as one man, upholding their revolutionary heroism, fearless of sacrifices, fearless of hardships, are determined to persist in and step up our resistance, resolve to fight and to win, to strike till all the US troops quit, the puppet army and administration are toppled, to liberate the South, defend the North and advance to the peaceful reunification of the country."

Let all our compatriots and combatants in the South enhance the revolutionary heroism of our nation, dash forward in the impetus of their victories; spare no efforts to wipe out the enemy and record exploits; frustrate the whole policy of "Vietnamization of the war," foil the "pacification" plan, smash the enemy's administrative machine at its foundation, ceaselessly expand the liberated areas and seize power; strengthen the national unity, enhance the role of the revolutionary administration; build up a life of freedom; push ahead production, fight and serve the front.

Let the people's liberation armed forces bring into full play the revolutionary heroism, relentlessly attack and wipe out big portions of live forces and war means of the enemy; effectively support the people everywhere to rise up, join the people to carry out agitation propaganda among enemy troops, incite the latter to mutiny; and strictly observe all the policies of the Front and the Government vis-à-vis the people in the newly liberated areas.

Let our compatriots in the newly liberated areas help each other to promptly stabilize their life, rehabilitate and boost up production; build and defend their home, smash all the US-Thieu perfidious manoeuvres and brutal counter-attacks.

Let the people in the cities and areas still under the enemy control realize that the higher the US-Thieu clique escalate their savage war in both zones of our country, the more they intensify their repression, terror and exploitation of the people to cater for the US imperialists' policy of "Vietnamization." With the law on special power that he got from the puppet parliament by pressure, the traitor Nguyen Van Thieu has issued a series of criminal decrees to draft more people into the puppet army and to transfer paramilitary force into regular forces, driving even old persons, children and religionists to the front to serve as cannon-fodder for the US aggressors. These measures have thrown into confusion the whole social life and driven many families to an extremely desperate situation. On order from the US, the Thieu clique have intensified their exploitation of the people by inflation and increase of taxes, thus bringing the economic activity to a standstill, causing a rise in prices and unemployment and pushing the people into misery and humiliation. To ward off the people's reaction and repress the latter's struggle, the Thieu clique have eliminated all democratic rights, imposed fascist measures, resorted to terror, arrests, torture, imprisonment and execution without trial, muzzled the press, trampled upon the right to live of everybody, and eliminated all tendencies of opposition. These brutal administrative measures do not prove at all that they are strong. The US imperialists are trying with bombs and shells to put this administrative machine on our people. Not a single Vietnamese accept it.

The Central Comittee of the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam warmly exalt the spirit of unity, courage and undauntedness in struggle of our compatriots of all strata who do not shrink before the enemy's extremely barbarous repression. We warmly welcome all personalities, members of political, social and religious organizations, all persons of good will of various political tendencies who together with the people are struggling for an authentic peace, for independence, sovereignty and national concord.

In our struggle for national liberation, the strength of unity of our people in their fight is invincible. In the past, at present as well as in the future, the National Front for Liberation, the Provisional Revolutionary Government always remain faithful to the policy of great unity and national concord. This policy is fully expressed in the Political Program of the National Front for Liberation, in the Program of Action of the Provisional Revolutionary Government and in the seven point solution made public at the Paris Conference.

Our people and our country have gone through over a quarter-century of resistance to foreign aggression. The US aggressors and their lackeys have spared no efforts to divide our people, to sow hatred among our ranks. So let every Vietnamese enhance patriotism and mutual confidence and unite each other to fight to wipe out the US aggressors and topple the Thieu clique and to heal up the wounds of the Nation. It is certain that with the unswerving policy of national concord of the NFL and the PRG, our entire people will be the victor.

Dear compatriots in the North,

The US imperialists and their henchmen are deliberately partitioning our country, but "Viet Nam is one, the Vietnamese people is one, rivers may dry up and mountains wear away, but this truth is immutable." North and South Viet Nam are all the closer together and bound by greater mutual love in the life-or-death struggle, with the determination to defeat the US aggressors. Turning their thoughts toward heroic North Viet Nam, the people of South Viet Nam express their gratitude for the enormous services rendered by the great rear which has day and night wholeheartedly assisted the front line. The South Viet Nam people voice their admiration for the steel-like firmness of their twenty million kith and kin who have duly punished the US aggressors for their utterly brutal war escalation. With boundless loyalty, South Viet Nam is resolved to keep to their oath "every criminal act taken by the US against the North will meet with ripostes five or ten times harder from the South Vietnamese people and their armed forces." The latter are determined to win greater victories so as to liberate the South, defend the North and advance toward the peaceful reunification of the country.

Beloved overseas Vietnamese,

Together with so many heroes and model fighters, the example set by Nguyen Thai Binh represents the spirit of the indomitable Vietnamese youths. By his dauntless spirit and patriotism, he worthily represents the Vietnamese sons and daughters living abroad who are turning their thoughts toward their beloved fatherland and people now engaged in the great fight against US aggression, for national salvation. Learning from Nguyen Thai Binh's example, now more than ever, let you enhance your solidarity, increase your patriotic activities and contribute your best to the sacred resistance war of the nation against the US imperialist aggressors.

THE people of South Viet Nam, the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam express sincere and profound gratitude to the people, the National United Front of Kampuchea and the Cambodian Royal Government of National Union, to the Lao people and the Lao Patriotic Front which have been wholeheartedly supporting and assisting the Vietnamese people's resistance against US aggression, for national salvation. Loyal to the joint declaration of the Indochinese People's Summit Conference, the people of South Viet Nam and the rest of the country, standing shoulder to shoulder with the brother people of Cambodia and Laos, are resolved to defeat the Nixon doctrine in Indochina for the sake of independence and freedom of each country. The great, allround and steady victories recorded by the peoples in these two fraternal countries on the battlefield and in the building and consolidating of the liberated areas constitute a strong encouragement to the fighting South Viet Nam armed forces and people. The people of South Viet Nam are immensely elated at the victories these peoples have recorded on the international arena. They once again acclaim the glorious victory of the Cambodian people through the recognition of the Cambodian Royal Government of National Union as an official member at the Foreign Ministers' conference of Non-Aligned Countries recently held in Georgetown.

The official participation of the delegation of the PRG of the RSVN and the Cambodian Royal Government of National Union as full members of the conference is a very significant success of the Indochinese peoples' resistance against US aggression, for national salvation, of the militant solidarity of the oppressed peoples and the whole progressive mankind with the peoples of Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos now standing on the forefront of the fight against the common enemy — the US imperialist aggressors. That is also a strong and precious support of our stand concerning a correct political solution to the questions of Viet Nam and the other countries in Indochina, and an encouragement for us to persist in and push ahead our resistance against US aggression, for national salvation till total victory of our just stand.

The spirit of the Georgetown conference vindicates the revolutionary trend of our era and the determination of the third world peoples to take their destinies into their hands.

The people, National Front for Liberation and Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam express sincere and deep gratitude to the governments and peoples of the socialist countries, the peace and justice-loving countries, the progressive forces and the world people, and call on all brothers and friends to demand that the Nixon administration end the "Vietnamization of the war" policy, cease all acts of war escalation against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, to support the just stand and assist more strongly the Vietnamese people in their fight to completely defeat the US aggressors.

The South Vietnamese people call on the American people, for the sake of peace, justice and the genuine honour and interests of the United States, to resolutely urge the Nixon administration to halt the aggressive war against Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos, stop its criminal and bloody war escalation on the whole of Indochina, rapidly and totally withdraw its troops including air and naval troops, renounce the stooge puppet administration which is opposing the Indochinese people's right to self-determination, seriously negotiate and positively respond to the seven-point solution of the RSVN PRG the two key-points of which have been clarified.

"ALL men are created equal. They are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.' This immortal statement was made in the declaration of independence of the United States of America in 1776. In a broader sense, this means: all the peoples on the earth are equal by birth, all the people have the right to live, to be happy and free," President Ho Chi Chi Minh opened the proclamation of independence on September 2, 1945 by affirming the sacred fundamental national rights of all nations.

Over the past twenty seven years, bringing into play the tradition of indomitable strength of the August Revolution, holding to the path of independence charted out in 1945, the South Viet Nam people, together with their compatriots across the country, tenacious and dauntless, have surmounted all trials and made every effort and sacrifice, with the resolve to achieve at all costs independence and freedom and to be worthy of President Ho Chi Minh's statement in the early days of the resistance: "I believe that our compatriots throughout the country are confident in the determination and patriotism of our countrymen in Nam Bo" and the rest of South Viet Nam. Celebrating the 27th anniversary of the August Revolution and the Independence Day (September 2) this year, our people in the South and throughout the country are before a very favorable situation for the revolution. The trials will be hard but our people have grown up by leaps and bounds and it is confirmed by history that the "determination-to-fight-and-to-win" banner upheld by President Ho Chi Minh is an all-conquering banner.

Holding high the glorious banner of the August Revolution in their march to the ultimate goals, the South Vietnamese people, loyal to the sacred testament of President Ho, are resolved to completely defeat the US aggressors, and materialize the immortal wish of the venerated father of the nation.

For an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam, and the peaceful reunification of the fatherland, let our compatriots and combatants valiantly march forward.

Defending beloved Cua Viet river

Bombardments of North Vietnamese dykes and US admissions

THE river-dyke system in North Viet Nam has existed for a very long time. Documents dating back to the 11th century — i.e. from the Ly dynasty — recorded the strengthening of ancient dykes and the building of new ones for the protection of Thang Long capital, Hanoi at present.

In an agricultural conntry, dykes are of a paramount importance for its economy and the life of its population. Vietnamese annals mentioned dyke-breaks as real calamities.

The surface of a dyke is even but unused as roads not to impair its solidity. North Viet Nam possesses an extensive metalled and stoned road network which usually doubles the dyke system, making it possible not to employ this as communication lines. Dykes and nydraulic constructions of every kind are civilian works in their true meaning, and cannot be considered military targets.

By bombing North Viet Nam's dykes and water-conservancy structures, the enemy air forces — the USAF in this case — clearly violates articles 22 and 23-g of the provision on land-war laws and customs in the annex to the Hague Convention No.4 on the same subject. Such a violation constitutes a war crime under article 6, paragraph b, of the Statute of the Nuremberg International Military Tribunal which prohibits motiveless destruction of towns and villages or devastation unjustified by military considerations.

It is on the strength of these stipulations of international law that the Nuremberg judges of the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States sentenced to death the Reich gauleiter in Holland Seiss Inquart responsible for the destruction of sea dykes and bridges, destruction which generated floods over 395,000 hectares or 17 per cent of Holland's cultivated area.

Now, re-starting the aero-naval war against the DRVN in his frantic escalation, President Nixon has systematically ordered the destruction of dykes and water-conservancy works while heavy rains are approaching. In its June 16, 1972 declaration the DRVN Ministry of Hydraulics denounced that "in two months, from April 10 to June 10, the US Air Force flew 68 actions on 32 important dyke sections along large rivers and 31 water-conservancy structures in North Viet Nam. The total amount of explosive used to this effect ran as high as 665 bombs of all types not to mention hundreds of shells fired by US warships." In the second half of June and throughout July, new attacks were mounted whose devastating effects have been witnessed by foreign visitors among whom the American artiste Jane Fonda.

Under fire from highly indignant world and American opinion, the Nixon administration has had to admit its undertaking but in the way malfactors confess part of their offences to better conceal or justify the most important ones. The US Secretary of State acknowledged in a press conference in Washington on July 26 that American bombs had hit North Vietnamese dykes in many places, but accidentally and without causing serious damage.

On July 27 Nixon himself admitted the bombardment of dykes, adding however that he had heard of no flood whatever in North Viet Nam, and that the most important dykes had not been struck at.

Mr Nixon who made a fortune as head of the "Nixon, Mudge, Rose, Guthrie and Alexander" law firm, obviously reckons upon the technical and geographic ignorance of the average American, while perfectly aware, thanks to his brain-trusts, that heavy rains due to generate floods in North Viet Nam begin only in the 7th lunar month or the second ten days of August this year. The tactics of the US Air Force, experimented in 1965-1967 and analysed by Professor Yves Lacoste of the University of Paris, is as follows: "Big bombs are dropped, not directly on the dykes but at some distance away, on the alluvial bed over which rivers flow. The enormous craters thus dug have a deep shaking and undermining effect which can eventually give rise to the overflowing of all, rather than part, of the water carried in the plain (*Le Monde*, July 7, 1972).

Tra Ly river dyke (Thai Binh) destroyed by US bombs at 11.30 July 11, 1972

What then will be the effect of the bombs which directly hit the dykes, as admitted by Nixon, in this new, merciless war of destruction?

The Democratic Lawyers' International Association has also reached the following conclusion on June 7, 1972:

"If dykes broke as a result of bombardments which have taken or would take place, responsibility for this genocidal offence would, in the eye of international law, rest with President Nixon and the American government."

MR Nixon has not only taken up his own defence, he has even counter-attacked by asserting on last July 27 that if dyke-destruction had been a policy of the US, all or a substantial part of North Viet Nam's dykes would have been wiped out within one week. To dispel any doubt what he could do, he made it clear that, for the time being, he had not put in motion the tremendous power of the United States which would finish off North Viet Nam in one afternoon.

Nixon then quoted, as a philosophical tenet, a statement attributed to D. Eisenhower to justify the bombing of German civilian population in World War II: From a moral point of view, we should answer to ourselves on this basic question: the worst immorality is to let Hitler subdue Europe.

If one compares Eisenhower's words to Nixon's declaration at the July 27 press conference that to impose a communist government on the 17 million South Vietnamese with a mass killing as a result would be the extreme limit of immorality, everything will be crystal-clear. Nixon will shrink from neither the destruction of the river-dyke system in North Viet Nam, nor any method of extermination against the Vietnamese people to preserve the neo-colonialist Saigon government headed by the US blood-thirsty valet Nguyen Van Thieu. That is the very logic of "Vietnamization" which Nixon has not at all renounced and whose effect is not to end but indefinitely protract the American war of aggression.

As an astute lawyer, Nixon has in addition created an alibi by affirming first of all that the choice of targets is left to the tactical command, and next that dyke-sections with ground-to-air missile sites would be bombarded. If therefore a dyke was broken in spate time, the blame for it would be laid on the existence of a missile launching there. And thus at worst a certain captain Medina or Lieutenant Calley would be involved, but not the President — Commander-in-chief of the United States armed forces.

So Nixon has taken his stand and this is tantamount not only to admitting the bombardment of North Vietnamese dykes but to threatening to use pressure methods of a more radical, exterminating nature. After conventional warfare, after chemical and biological warfare, geophysic warfare is being prepared under the signboard of anti-communism to impose at any cost American neo-colonialism on South Viet Nam.

Mr Nixon has forgotten one thing: the era of imperialism is gone and in the present world juncture in which the balance of forces is tilted more and more in favour of the anti-imperialism forces, a people closely united under a sound leadership can successfully confront any imperialist foe, be it American imperialism armed with sophisticated war techniques. The Vietnamese people — forty million united men and women from South to North, heirs to a multi-millinary tradition of resistance to foreign invasion and natural calamities — have successively in a quarter-century got the upper hand of Japanese fascism, French colonialism and various US aggressive strategies from the unilateral war to "special warfare" and "limited warfare" in the South coupled with an aero-naval war in the North. Even if we had to endure the greatest hardships and fresh sacrifices, we should hold out firmly until total victory.

Let Mr Nixon, who, as a lawyer, is supposed not to be ignorant of international law and jurisprudence, awaken in due time from his power illusions and gauge the full extent of his own political and penal responsibility. In so doing he would be able to spare the American nation a blemish which would for long cast a gloom on her conscience and moral image in the world.

TRINH DINH THAO

LL.D, former member of the Saigon Bar.

President of the Viet Nam Alliance of National Democratic and Peace Forces

Here and there...

Compensation

After Pat, it was Rogers's turn to give an unexpected press conference in Washington. To make known to the world his "astonishment" at the criticisms by Ramsey Clark, ex US Attorney General, of the Nixon-ordered bombings of North Viet Nam which he, Rogers, regarded as advisable.

Such a statement did not fail to "astonish" the newspapermen to a lesser degree.

Had not Rogers himself been Prosecutor General then head of the Justice Department too under Eisenhower (1952-1960), that is head of US justice for nearly 10 years before Ramsey Clark? For all his legal offices, he has however regarded as advisable a war of extermination waged upon a people who have in no way threatened the land of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

Some still remained "astonished" at the appointment to the State Department of a magistrate who had never been a household word in foreign affairs until he has been put there by Nixon. Some have even doubts about his competence regarding the most elementary norms of common and international law.

There is certainly something fishy about it. But why make a fuss? Mr Rogers has surely not forgotten about "laws" or "legislation." But in arrogating to himself the right to take no notice of "laws" and "legislation," he has debased himself in his human dignity.

So one thing has been made good by the other.

Mea Culpa

A damned nuisance, this dyke and dam affair! Besides that Fonda shrew, there was a host of eye-witnesses who contradicted Mr Nixon and Co. To such an extent that the Secretaries of State and of Defence and the US president himself could no longer systematically ignore or deny the charges levelled at them. They now blamed the bombings on the dykes and dams of North Viet Nam on targeting "errors," in an attempt to abate public clamour.

Hardly had they owned part of the unpalatable air strikes when Mr Malik, Indonesia's Foreign Minister raised his voice: "The US administration has no intention to bomb dykes and dams... It would not be so ill-advised as to do so" (*USIS*). So reports on destruction of North Vietnamese hydraulic works were just "Communist propaganda" stunts (*AFP*).

Did Mr Malik mean it? Of course, he did. But why hadn't he spoken up before the *mea culpa*? At least, he would have helped delay it.

To make good his ill-timed show of loyalty, and proving himself more Nixonian than Nixon himself, he has been moving heaven and earth to perform another display of zeal.

Uganda's President Pooh-Poohs Protocol

At the presentation of the credentials of the US Ambassador, Uganda's President, General Idi Amin, said to the latter: "It is a great shame that such a superpower as the USA assaults such a small nation as North Viet Nam!"

Oh! Dear Mr Malik, isn't this pill administered by the head of a "small nation" too, a bit too bitter to swallow? Can't you give something to Mr Nixon to help him stomach it?"

It would be quite interesting too to see the face of the US envoy at the ceremony.

A Rebuff Faced with Fortitude

The Conference of Non-Aligned Countries opened in Georgetown (Guyana) with a highly significant event: recognition by an overwhelming majority of the RSVN and FUNK delegations as full-fledged members of the assembly, *AP* Georgetown correspondent described on August 10 the admission of the Viet Cong to the Conference as a slap in the US face (Nixon's rather). It would strengthen, he added, the Vietnamese Communists' position at the Paris Conference, for the latter would thereby secure the moral backing of the bloc of the 66 non-aligned countries.

For once, well said! But you can't help it, can you, for the truth remains the truth. No cloud can for ever intercept the light of the sun.

However it wrings one's heart to think of that Leng Boret, the Lon Nol man who had been cooling his heels for days at the entrance of the Conference Hall and who had to pack up in the end! And of Malik, the Indonesian spokesman, and of those of Malaysia and Vientiane who walked out, after being frustrated in their attempt to prevent the decision, in passive protest, and under the icy stare of the whole gathering!

But most pitiable of all as Mr Malik who, besides his ill-timed plea for Nixon's bombings of dykes in North Viet Nam, had taken a zealous part in the elaboration and selling of the so-called solution of the Viet Nam issue suggested by ASEAN (recently rejected by the DRVN Government).

The Caravan Goes On

'But Mr Malik is not a man to easily forgive and forget.

Back in Djakarta, he made many declarations on the Conference, which he described as a "failure" for lack of "identity of views." He even intimated that Indonesia might not take part in the next meeting to be held in 1973 in Algiers (*Reuter*, August 15).

Every one still remembers that Indonesia has so far taken pride in being one of the promoters of the non aligned countries' movement. Her break-away seems to be part of the moves to drive a wedge among the said countries, to the advantage of the US imperialists of whom the Indonesian Foreign Minister apparently is a servile echo.

What eventually happened at the Georgetown Conference after his departure?

Mr Hoang Bich Son, head of the "Vietcong" delegation was given a prolonged ovation (*AFP*, August 10). That of the "Sihanouk Government was voted in by a very substantial majority" (*Reuter*, August 11).

The Conference was recognized by almost all the delegations as "the most fruitful" to date (*AFP*, August 13). The non-aligned countries' movement, commented *Reuter* on the same day, has adopted a more progressive line. This trend is obvious in its final declaration and markedly anti-US resolutions.

So Mr Malik has been outdistanced by the very movement he is trying now to discredit. But I may relevantly quote a Vietnamese saying which goes:

You may stay away from the fair, dear miss,
There will always be a crush there.
You may even get married, dear miss,
There will not be a smaller throng at the fair.

or as they said in the Western in a more matter-of-factly way: the dogs bark but the caravan goes on.

HUONG NAM

o Japan:

On August 5, thousands of Japanese including many members of the Diet surrounded a convoy of Viet Nam-bound US tanks and armoured cars leaving Sagasi base for the Murasame bridge on its way to a special port of the United States Armed Forces in Yokohama. The demonstrators shouted: "Yankees go home!", "End the war of aggression in Viet Nam now!"

The US forces tried to break through the picket lines on several occasions but failed. Ichio Asukeda, mayor of Yokohama, expressed his support for the demonstrators. He came to the scene to cheer the demonstrators.

After nearly 48 hours' protest action, the US aggressors had to send back the convoy admist exultant cheers of the demonstrators.

o Sweden:

A mass demonstration took place all day long on August 6 in downtown Stockholm. The demonstrators carried a big banner reading "Don't forget Hiroshima, stop the US terror bombing, support the Vietnamese people!", and distributed thousands of leaflets urging an end to the US bombing and genocide and biocide in Indochina, and calling on the Swedish people to contribute funds to help Viet Nam repair the dykes destroyed by the US.

o Britain:

On August 6, a demonstration against nuclear weapons marched on the US Embassy in London to hand in a petition protesting the Nixon administration's intensified air and naval war against the Vietnamese people and demanding an immediate halt to the US war of aggression in Viet Nam.

IN BRIEF

The protesters staged an hour-long stand-in in front of the US mission. Earlier, on August 3, two deputations representing 250,000 members of the Engineering and Technical Workers Union led by its president, Mr Ian Mikardo, and the other representing the National Assembly of Women led by Mrs Connie Sefert, its President, handed to the US Embassy petitions demanding the Nixon administration to end its criminal acts against the Vietnamese people and to engage in seriously negotiations at the Paris Conference on Viet Nam.

o France:

The French magazine "Croissance de Jeunes Nations" (Growth of Young Nations) devoted its July and August 1972 issues to Viet Nam. On the editorial page, its editor-in-chief Georges Hourdin wrote: "To sum up, this is what we want: the Americans must withdraw from Viet Nam not only their ground troops but also all the logistical outfits of their naval, ground and air forces, so that the Vietnamese can settle themselves their affairs. The Vietnamese must be left to build with their own skill a new, equitable, balanced and modern society in which each citizen has his share and can contribute to making the ricefields, forests, mineral resources and ports yield the highest output, in national independence...." Other contributors included journalists Claude Julien and Jacques Decornoy, scientist Yves Castel Pastors Marcel Voge and Andre Dumas and other well-known French personalities.

o Chile:

Stirring activities in solidarity with Viet Nam continued to take part in many places of the country. In San Miguel, the Week of Solidarity with Viet Nam started on July 24 was closed by an impressive meeting on July 29.

In particular, a photo exhibition on the crimes of aggression of US imperialism in Viet Nam held at Chile University drew large crowds of visitors. There, shows of documentary films on Viet Nam and talk and discussions on the situation in Viet Nam were given every day.

On August 5, workers at the "Pacific" engineer works in Santiago de Chile held a session of voluntary labour to raise money for the national Support Viet Nam fund.

o United States:

On August 8, a big demonstration of jobless Viet Nam war veterans erupted in New York City against the decision of Governor Rockfeller to stop unemployment allowances to them. The demonstrators hung many streamers in front of Rockfeller's residence, one of which read, "End Viet Nam war, we want to work in peace." After that they gathered at a rally to castigate the Nixon administration's spending huge amounts of money on the aggressive war in Viet Nam while leaving millions in America jobless.

— At the National Convention of the US Democratic Party, Nixon was bitterly attacked by many delegates. Senator McGovern said: "President Nixon's record has been one of broken promises, with 20,000 Americans dying Viet Nam in the past three and a half years (this figure is of course very conservative—*Ed.*), two million more Americans out of job and the bugging of the Democrats' national headquarters, making a mockery of his pledge to restore law and order."

Senator Mansfield likened the Nixon administration to a dinosaur fattened by the money of tax-payers and gone indifferent to the needs of the public and perhaps even to its own survival.

Senator Humphrey called on the democrats to unite and throw Nixon out of the White House."

From Lusaka to Georgetown

A Big Step Forward

THE meaning of the political event which took place in Georgetown, capital of the Republic of Guyana, can be fully understood only in the light of a series of other developments that, the Western press says, "have stirred public opinion in the five continents." In Georgetown, resolutions on the fight against colonialism and neo-colonialism and wars of aggression unleashed by imperialism and for peace and national independence, were adopted by 64 countries representing half of the third world. From that place next door to the United States resounded the powerful voices of more than a billion people, stigmatizing the US criminal war of aggression in Viet Nam and Indochina and, laying bare the deceitful "peace" manœuvres of the White House and Nixon's vicious "Vietnamization." They demanded an immediate end to that dirty war, and freedom to the Vietnamese and Indochinese peoples to settle themselves their own affairs without foreign intervention. Most remarkably the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries accepted the RSVN PRG and Cambodian Royal Government of National Union as full members in spite of manipulations by agents of the US.

After the US Asian doctrine elaborated at Guam was perfected and named after Nixon, the US imperialists have been busy putting into effect their reactionary global strategy on a world's scale at a time when they are visibly weakened. Although this strategy has lamentably failed on its main testing ground—Viet Nam and Indochina—it has nevertheless, owing to one reason or another, succeeded in generating here and there an illusion of peace and negotiation (in the American way) or a climate of détente (in favour of the Americans). Washington hopes to take advantage of this illusion and détente and massively deploy its firepower, hardware, chemical products and techonological achievements to exterminate an entire people — the Vietnamese — as a deterrent and a warning to anyone who dares to stand in it way. The motivation of such savagery is to stop the advance of the movement of national independence, democracy and social progress now sweeping Asia, Africa and Latin America.

But it is a wild dream. The US dark designs have been exposed and condemned by the whole mankind, as evidenced by the world movement of support and aid to the Vietnamese and Indochinese peoples. The Georgetown occurrence was indeed a hard blow dealt at the US imperialists right at a moment when their isolation and confusion was at its worst.

By granting the delegates of the RSVN PRG and the Cambodian RGNU full membership, and by passing resolutions expressing full support to the righteous cause of the Vietnamese and Indochinese peoples, the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries provided a new proof of their important part in this changing world. The nations of the third world are rising up to become masters of their own destiny in defiance of reactionary forces and of erroneous tendencies in the present-day international revolutionory movement. A big step forward has indeed been achieved by non-aligned countries since their September 1970 Lusaka Conference.

"No doubt the Georgetown Conference has made a worthy contribution to the struggle of the peoples throughout the world against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, for national liberation, just and lasting peace, international cooperation, happiness and prosperity of nation" (message of greeting dated August 7 from RSVN Foreign Minister Nguyen Thi Binh).

Its successful outcome was at the same time a major and significant diplomatic gain of the South Vietnamese, Cambodian and Indochinese peoples. It has been inspiring the people of the whole Indochina to persevere in, and step up, their anti-US patriotic resistance until final victory. With signal achievements in their indomitable fight, the South Vietnamese people have been making their most active contribution to the common efforts of oppressed peoples the world over, and have been weakening the US imperialists—common enemy of the entire mankind. Firmly resolved to be equal to the valuable support shown them by non-aligned countries, the South Vietnamese people will deal even more crushing blows at the aggressors and shatter all US neo-colonialist plans, thereby impelling the common movement against US-headed imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism.

DINH BA

Premier Fidel Castro cordially received Minister Nguyen Thi Binh on a visit to Cuba last July

Conference of non-aligned countries supports Indochina's anti-US fight

Reports from Guyana said that the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries met in Georgetown from August 7 to 12, 1972 with the participation of 300 delegates from 64 Asian, African and Latin American countries, 26 observers from international organizations and national liberation movements, and special guests and journalists.

On August 8, amidst thunderous applause, Guyanese Premier Forbes Burham delivered his opening speech in which he severely condemned the US imperialists' war of aggression and savage crimes against the Vietnamese people, and expressed full support for their just anti-US patriotic resistance.

On August 10, the Conference passed a resolution admitting the Delegations of the RSVN PRG and of the Cambodian Royal Government of National Union as full members to the Organization of Non-Aligned Countries in the teeth of underhand manœuvres by a handful of US agents at the Conference. Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Hoang Bich Son, head of the delegation of the RSVN PRG, and Minister of Popular Education and Youth Chan Youran, head of the Delegation of the Cambodian RGNU, were invited to take their seats among the delegates amidst a prolonged ovation, while the delegates from Indonesia, Malaysia and Vientiane, defeated in their dark designs, walked out, and the representation of the Phnom Penh administration sneaked out of Georgetown.

Cheers mounted from crowds greeting the hoisting of the RSVN flag at the gate of the Conference building.

Prior to this, on August 8, in his speech at the Conference, Cuba's Chief delegate Raul Roa declared: "The presence of the RSVN PRG is an honour for this Conference and an encouragement for all of us to persevere in our anti-imperialist fight. No one else has done more for the liberation and the interests of all nations than the heroic Vietnamese people, no one else is more entitled than they and their representatives to discuss problems relating to independence, peace and security of the world."

After four days of work, on August 12, the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries adopted a declaration on the policy of non-aligned countries and a number of resolutions including one dealing with Indochina.

The part of the declaration concerning Indochina said: The Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries expressed solidarity with the struggle for self-determination of the heroic peoples of Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos. They were deeply concerned over US war escalation in Viet Nam as evidenced by the resumption of US bombing of North Viet Nam. They were particularly concerned over the news of destruction of North Viet Nam dykes as well as the untold suffering caused to the civilians by military attacks. They demanded immediate withdrawal from Viet Nam of all foreign forces as a prerequisite for any peaceful settlement of the Viet Nam question, which will leave the Vietnamese people free to settle their own affairs without foreign interference.

The Foreign Ministers expressed full support for the seven-point proposal and the two-point elaboration of the RSVN PRG, as a sound and reasonable basis for any Viet Nam solution. They called on the United States to conduct serious negotiations at the Paris Conference for a solution to the Viet Nam issue on the basis of the proposals put forth by the RSVN PRG.

The resolution on Indochina pointed out: The Conference condemned US aggression and serious war escalation in Indochina and once again reaffirmed full support for the just and heroic struggle of the Vietnamese, Cambodian and Lao peoples for national independence and freedom.

The Conference urged that the US Government end the war in South Viet Nam, call off the so-called Vietnamization, stop the mining and blockade of DRVN ports, destruction of dykes and water conservancy works, suspend the bombing and all other war acts against the DRVN. The US Government must in earnest respond to the sevent-point proposal of the RSVN PRG and let the South Vietnamese people settle their own affairs without foreign interference.

SOUTH VIET NAM CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION